

LOS ANGELES - Today, local members of Congress joined by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and community organizations in Los Angeles urged young people who believe they are eligible for relief from deportation through deferred action to review [USCIS's recently released guidelines and be ready for the application process which begins August 15](#)

. Leaders also cautioned applicants to avoid providers of fraudulent services as they seek assistance with the application process. The leaders recommended that eligible youth secure help from trusted community and legal organizations.

At a press conference in downtown Los Angeles, Representatives Xavier Becerra (CA-31), Karen Bass (CA-33) and Judy Chu (CA-32) released the following statements:

Rep. Becerra: **"It's time to make the dream come true. So eligible youth must take every precaution in the application process to do it right and to avoid fraudulent service providers. Immigrant youth should seek assistance from trusted organizations in our communities to walk them through the application process. I'm pleased that USCIS is taking the necessary steps to implement President Obama's deferred action policy which gives our youth the opportunity to put their education to work for the country they love and call home."**

Rep. Bass: **"In June I applauded the President and Secretary Napolitano for their exceptional leadership to allow youth who are eligible for the DREAM Act to continue to call America home. This new provision is a symbolic of American principles and values, and provides security for young people who have been raised and educated here the**

opportunity to become productive citizens of the only country they've ever known- the United States.□ We're ready to turn the Administration's directive into action, and plan to inform our constituents about the ways to obtain the proper assistance they need."

Rep. Chu: "This press event is important because we want to make sure this deferred action program works and that people know what their rights are under this new policy. Because though this will help thousands of youth across the country, this is only the beginning. I hope this will be the first step toward passage of a federal DREAM Act that will provide a path to citizenship, rather than temporary relief for these wonderful students."

On August 15, 2012, USCIS expects to make all forms, instructions and information relevant to the deferred action process available to applicants. It will then immediately begin accepting requests for consideration of deferred action for eligible youth. An information brochure and flyer are available on www.uscis.gov . Visit www.uscis.gov/avoidscams for tips on filing forms, reporting scams and finding accredited legal services.